



MINUTES

October 13, 2004

ATTENDEES

Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
April Rust, MN DNR – Project WET
Beth Storey, FMR
Brenda Erickson, CGEE
Brian Benasutti, Oldcastle Precast Co.
Jean Bradley, City of Bloomington
Jen Cuff, MNRRRA
Jerry Spetzman, MDA
Jim Heintzman, SMM
John Bower, CMWD

Kathy Ahlers, Kunde Co.
Linda Henning, Metropolitan Council
Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth
Mark Tomasek, MPCA
Michele Hanson, MDNR
Randy Thoreson, NPS – RTCA
Ron Struss, UM Extension
Sage Passi, RWMWD
Shannon Lotthammer, Prior Lake -
Spring Lake WD

PARTNER UPDATES

Shannon Lotthammer, Prior Lake/Spring Lake, reported on the homeowners' lakeshore audit. Approximately 62 have been completed; the detail is being adapted into a tool that individuals – and the WaterShed Partners - can use.

Sage Passi reported on the experimental watershed at Parkway Knolls next to Tamarack Swamp Woodbury. Roughly 80 follow-ups with homeowners have been completed. Analysis and learnings to take elsewhere are still to come.

The Burnsville Rainwater Garden Retrofit Project is a continuing success. Gardens look great in their manicured suburban settings and matched watershed monitorings show dramatic results in runoff volume and nutrient load reduction. Looking for funding to continue and expand the project.

John Bower reported that CMWD's Best Management Practice Program provides funding and expertise for community projects. People are interested, about half of whom prefer the manicured look.

REPORTS ON STATE FAIR DISPLAY AND WATER FESTIVALS

Brenda Erickson reported that 800,000 people are estimated to have toured the DNR building at the 2004 State Fair. Exhibit volunteers estimated that nearly 40,000 people "lingered" at the WaterShed exhibit, five percent of those through the building. There was discussion of the accuracy of the tally for our exhibit.

An estimated 1,300 fifth-grade students from 44 classrooms in the greater metropolitan area attended the September 29th Metro Children's Water Festival. It was a beautiful sunny fall day for the event to be held in a new location on the fair grounds.

Project Wet's 2004 *Make a Splash Festival* was also a success with 350 attending. As funding is often late resulting in a rushed process, April Rust will put out 2005 materials earlier noting that funding is pending.

The Chisago County Water Festival hosted 700 kids and also went well. Good volunteers, funding by county commissioners, even t-shirts!

UP-DATES ON JOINT METRO WATERSHED PARTNER PROJECTS

Minnesota Water – Let's Keep it Clean program – Ron Struss

The website is near completion with the help of Seth Mabbott at Hamline who will complete the development and provide ongoing maintenance. The media campaign has about \$17,000 in gifts and pledges to help complete materials that can be printed by cities.

KARE 11 / StormCenter up-date – Ron Struss

KARE 11 continues to provide coverage on water resource stories. Teri Heyer is organizing a mid-project meeting with KARE 11 and WaterShed Partners.

Stormwater training modules for city staff – Ron Struss

The work team has met once, identified subjects and is being expanded. North Dakota has 10 cities doing a similar thing. The group will review ND's materials and survey other such training programs.

Brochure and poster print jobs – Ron Struss

In December, we are printing a poster from a Periscope "green crayon" ad design and the "Green & Clean" brochures. The plan for printing and distribution are to be developed.

ALSO NOTED

Following the meeting, Ron Struss is collecting a MN Great Award to the WaterShed Partners for our media campaign to help cities with water quality education. Great for us!

PRESENTATION

Minnesota's Phosphorus Report by Mark Tomasek, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
State legislation to restrict use of automatic dishwasher detergents did not move forward, but did lead the legislature to ask "what exactly are the critical sources of phosphorus pollution our surface water?" and direct the Pollution Control Agency to do a study. For copies of the executive summary and the full report in hard copy or on CD contact Mary Osborn, mary.osborn@pca.st.mn.us. The study is also available online at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us>.

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, October 25, 1 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 1-3 p.m., at CGEE. NOTE THE TIME CHANGE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.

- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, November 10, 9 a.m.**, at the Department of Agriculture, St. Paul. Let a Steering Committee member know if you have an agenda item for the meeting. The WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.
- **E-mail the WaterShed Partners at watershedpartners@listproc.hamline.edu**. Please take care not to respond to an individual through listproc. Take the name from the body of original and e-mail directly. Listproc messages are screened but on occasion personal responses are missed and go to all.

2004 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089	Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506
Sharon Doucette, 651-714-3538	Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192
Jay Michels, 651-351-0630	Ron Struss, 651-215-1950
Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269	Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105
John Bilotta, 952-361-1814	

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Ron Struss at 651-215-1950